

Serial No. 10/578,013 - - - - - 2

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SEP 02 2008**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please replace paragraph [0004] on page 1 of the specification with the following amended paragraph:

-- Fusion of the viral membrane and the cell envelope, steps (b) and (c) above, is mediated by the interaction of a viral transmembrane glycoprotein (fusion protein) with surface proteins and membranes of the target cell. These interactions cause conformational changes in the fusion protein that result in the insertion of a viral fusion peptide into the ~~target~~target cell membrane. This insertion is followed by further conformational changes within the fusion protein that bring the viral envelope and cell membranes into close proximity and results in the fusion of the two membrane bilayers. --